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. Challands

They have not abolished patronage as promised in the election of 1916.

They did not properly enforce the Prohibition Act.

They have not spent money on roads to keep them in proper repair.

They have only spent during their term \$3,516,000 on Public Works while the Conservatives spent \$44,560,000 on Public Works during their term.

Their first expenditure on assuming office in 1916 was to re-furnish all the offices occupied by the Ministers at a cost of over \$9,000.

They have expended in three years \$150,000. in automobiles for officials.

They have borrowed in four years \$27,536,500, while the Conservatives, during their 13 years of office, only borrowed \$12,405,000.

The net debt of the Province when the Conservatives left office was \$19,000,000, while the net debt of the Province today is \$34,000,000, or an addition to the net debt under Liberal rule of \$15,000,000.

They have imposed on the people attending moving picture shows the sum of \$345,985, during their first two years, and not a cent was given back to the Municipalities.

They have collected in their first three years in office from motor licenses \$573.754 and expect to collect in this fiscal year \$650,000, making a grand total of \$1,123.754 and not a dollar have they paid back to the Municipalities nor have they spent any portion of their money on the roads, and see the state of the roads today.

In 1917 they took over the operation of the Frondeg Farm at Cobble Hill belonging to Grafith Hughes, the then owner of the Victoria Daily Times, and a strong supporter of the Government, and in its operation they lost \$8,718 and then gave up the lease before the time expired.

They built a private bridge for Charles Doering on Cache Creek connecting his field with the Carlboo Road. It cost \$2,450. They put a gate on the bridge preventing the public from using it. This bridge is locally known as the "Hindenberg" bridge.

The firm of Gillespie, Hart & Todd, of which firm the Minister of Finance is yet a partner, have been doing business with the Government in connection with Insurance and the selling of Provincial Bonds.

The Pacific Great Eastern Railway, whose directors are the Premier, Mr. Oliver, and the Minister of Finance, Mr. Hart, and the Attorney-General, Mr. Farris, placed Insurance on the railway in 1919 amounting to \$2,249,970, with the firm of Gillespie, Hart & Todd, although they were not the lowest tenderers, and the insurance was placed with an American firm.

ROADS

In 1917-18 the Oliver Government spent \$1,151,970 in Public Works and the cost of the supervision was \$119,972 or 10.4%, while the Conservative Government in 1912-13 spent \$4,124,042 and the supervision cost \$137,907 or 3.3%.

In 1916, under the Conservative Government, the total salaries for the Deputy Minister of Public Works and his assistants at Victoria was \$855.32 per month, while in 1920, under the Oliver-Farris Government this same office is costing \$2,254.99 per month, an increase in this office alone of \$16,796.04 per annum, or 260% of an increase, and during that period the Oliver-Farris Government has built no new roads. This same increase has prevailed all over the Province in connection with Public Works. You can now see why the Government "surtaxes" the Farmer by increasing his taxes three-fold and spends nothing on roads.

When the Conservatives left office in 1916 they left over 15,000 miles of roads, 8,000 miles of trails and 60 miles of bridges, while the Oliver-Farris Government have failed to keep up these works by way of repairs, as all their money voted for district votes is spent in overhead salaries and travelling expenses of high-class officials.

In the first three years of office the Oliver-Parris Government collected \$214,136 for Game Licenses and this year they expect to collect \$120,000, making a total of \$334,000. And the game of the country is being slaughtered because all old game officials were dismissed and there are no officials to speak of attempting to prosecute under the Game Act. Dr. Baker, a practising dentist in Vancouver, was placed in charge of the Department and is now receiving a salary of \$300.00 per month, and Attorney-General Farris purchased for him an Overland 5-passenger car costing \$1.523, which is used exclusively by Dr. Baker in Vancouver and vicinity. The Department pays for the storage and up-keep of the said car.

The Agricultural Credits Commission, brought into existence by the old Government for the purpose of loaning cheap money to Farmers cost \$13,073 a year to operate, while the Land Settlement Board, which took its place under the Oliver Administration in 1918, cost \$28,860 a year to operate, or more than double the cost of the old Board, and have only loaned about \$110,000 since they took office. This Board has spent \$2,400,000 in connection with so-called Soldier Settlement areas, and everyone knows the most unsatisfactory results received from this work. This Board bought the Christian Ranch near Kelowna for a Soldier Land Settlement area for the sum of \$34,543.52 and in addition spent \$55,171 in development work, in all \$89,714, and in July last the Government abandoned it because there was no water available to irrigate the land and the soldiers had to give up their holdings.

Mr. Thos. Morrison, President of the Liberal Association at Rutland, obtained this property under option from the original owners and after having it for thirty days turned it over to the Land Settlement Board, making a clear profit of \$9,000.

The Board also bought a Soldier area at Fernie and spent \$20,713 on it and then abandoned it and the Soldiers from both this area and the Kelowna area have now been scattered all over the Province.

When the Conservative Government lett office in 1916 the salaries paid to officials in the Province amounted to \$2,664,222, while today under the Oliver-Farris Government these salaries have reached the enormous figure of \$3,202,482—or an increase in 4 years of \$2,538,260 which is a quarter of the total revenue of the Province.

The record of absconding officials under the Oliver-Farris Administration has never been equalled in the history of the Province. Their first Attorney-General, Mr. M. A. Macdonald, was forced to resign owing to his having received \$15,000 campaign funds from the Mackenzie-Mann interests. He was also involved in his first election in 1916 in the "plugging" scandal, when Seattle toughs were brought over from Seattle under one John T. Scott, to vote absentees and dead men in the city of Vancouver. Scott was assisted in this work by a man named Cook, who was afterwards appointed by Attorney-General Farris to the public service and placed in charge of automobile licenses. Later on he absconded and, together with Scott, is now residing in the United States and has never been punished. Mr. Findlay, the Prohibition Commissioner, was also appointed by Attorney-General Farris and tried to escape, but was caught on the U. S. boundary and has since served a term in the penitentiary.

Although the Mothers' Pension Act passed the Legislature last April, the first payment under this Act was not made until the month of October, just before the election

The Minimum Nason and has proved a failure, as employers are allowed to evade its provisions.

What the new Conservative Government will do if Elected to Office

- 1. They will give you an efficient and economical Administration.
- 2. They will reduce the great overhead salary list, but not in such a way as to affect the Public Service, and at the same time pay reasonable salaries, considering the high cost of living, to those in the employ of the Government.
- 4. They will try to establish, as they did in the past, more pulp mills in this Province.
- 5. They will restore our credit in the money markets where they left it in 1916.

- 6. They will follow out their original policy of 1914 in extending the Pacific Great Eastern Railway into the Peace River and touch the great grain growing area of Western Alberta so as to divert that shipping into our Coast harbours.
- 7. They will encourage prospecting in both minerals and oil and will cancel the reserves which the Oliver Government has placed on coal, iron and oil in this Province.
- 8. They will go into the money markets and borrow money at the lowest rate of interest and re-loan it to farmers in loans from 10 to 40 years.
- 9. They will institute a proper and practical policy of encouraging soldiers to go on the land.
- 10. They will give assistance to the Municipalities by paying them a per capita grant from the Consolidated Revenue, which will have the effect of reducing taxes.
- 11. They will encourage irrigation in the portions of the Province requiring it by assuming Government ownership and control of the water for irrigation purposes, construction of storage, surveys and main canals as public utilities.
- 12. They will also assist the distribution of irrigation water by guaranteeing of bonds of water municipalities.
- 13. They will also give consideration to further necessary irrigating facilities by means of assistance to hydro-electric projects.
- 14. They will introduce legislation and carry into effect the declared wishes of the people as expressed in the recent referendum on liquor; at the same time this Act must be a fair and reasonable one so that the Government will have absolute control of the traffic and that there will be no abuse in the uses of liquor, but same to be used only in moderation. Heavy penalties will be included in the Act for all infractions and the Act will be strictly enforced. They will also use every effort with the Dominion Government, under whose jurisdiction the matter lies, to see that legislation is passed at Ottawa which will stop the importation of liquor into this Province by private parties, so that all liquor purchased and sold in British Columbia will be absolutely under Government control.
- 15. The Conservative Government will also hand over to the Municipalities a share of the profits derived from the sale of liquor in the Government stores so that the burden of taxation in Municipalities may be reduced by this contribution from the Government.
- 16. The above are only a few of the reforms which will be instituted by the Conservative Government should they be elected on the 1st December, as they stand pledged to adopt a constructive business-like programme which will be administered by business men, looking forward to a more successful period in the next five years and with more results than we have seen under the Oliver Administration.





